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Message Text

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47
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /120 W
---------- 025722
R 151045Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5498
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 2951

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, TS, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET NAVAL VISIT TO TUNIS

REF: TUNIS 2861 (NOTAL)

1. IN UPI INTERVIEW MAY 13 BOURGUIBA CONFIRMED RUMORS WE HAD HEARD THAT GOT HAS RECENTLY GRANTED PERMISSION FOR A VISIT TO TUNIS BY A SOVIET NAVAL VESSEL. BOURGUIBA PUT HIS STATEMENT IN CONTEXT OF DESCRIBING RECENT UNIVERSITY STUDENT STRIKES BEHIND WHICH GOT SEES COMMUNIST INFLUENCE AND TRIAL OF MEMBERS OF

SOVIET SPY RING LAST WEEK. TUNISIA, HE SAID, IS NOT LOOKING FOR A QUARREL WITH RUSSIA. "WE ARE A COUNTRY FRIENDLY TO THE SOVIET UNION IN SO FAR AS THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT TRY TO PROVOKE DISTURBANCES... BY ESPIONAGE RINGS. TO SHOW YOU THAT I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST MOSCOW IT WILL REMIND YOU
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THAT

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WE HAVE RECENTLY AUTHORIZED THE VISIT TO TUNIS OF
A SOVIET WARSHIP".

2. COMMENT: IF VISIT TAKES PLACE IT WILL BE THE FIRST
SOVIET NAVAL PORT CALL IN TUNISIA'S HISTORY SO FAR AS
WE AWARE. EMBASSY SPECULATES ONLY THAT GOT, WHICH HAS
RECENTLY COME DOWN VERY HARD ON SOVIETS BECAUSE OF SPY
RING, APPROVED SHIP VISIT AS NECESSARY BALANCING GESTURE.
IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER VISIT WILL BE UNIQUE OR
PRESAGES REGULAR SOVIET PORT CALLS HERE.
SEELYE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, ESPIONAGE AGENTS, MILITARY VISITS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740119-0988
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740544/aaaabncx.tel
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET NAVAL VISIT TO TUNIS
TAGS: MARR, TS, UR
To: STATE
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